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Richard A. Jordan P.O. Box 81363 Wellesley Hills, MA 02481-0004				
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TRAN, BANGLONG				
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/790,476

**Applicant(s)**

SHAH, SANDEEP

**Examiner**

BANGLONG TRAN

**Art Unit**

2458

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-16 are cancelled by Preliminary Amendment.
2. Claims 17-43 are pending.
3. Claim 11 is missing. As dictated by 37 CFR 1.126, misnumbered claims [12-43] have been renumbered [11-42] respectively, and claims also have been renumbered in this Office Action to reflect this change. .

### ***Drawings***

4. The drawing #2 (Fig.2) is objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show "one or more cross-reference tables 44" as described in paragraph [0035] of the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application

must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Objections***

5. Claims 17, 18, 19, 20 and 35 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 17, 18, 19, 20 recite "...as defined in claim 17..." (The Examiner interprets ...as defined in claim 16) and claim 35 recites ".....as defined in claim 33..." (interpreted as defined in claim 34) which appear to be a typographical error. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

6. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 16 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 16 recited "an information system comprising at least one work flow chart...at least one information work....a control module..." is nonstatutory. It is just limited to a function descriptive materials consisting of computer program per se, instead of being defined as including tangible embodiments (i.e., a computer readable

storage medium such as memory device, storage medium, etc.,). As such, the claim is not limited to statutory subject matter and is therefore nonstatutory.

Claims 17-24 are depended on claim 16 and therefore rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as applied to claim 16 above.

Claim 25 is a method claim comprising steps but not tied to any particular machine or transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or material) to a different state or thing. Therefore, the claimed invention is directed to nonstatutory subject matter.

Claims 26-33 are depended on claim 25 and therefore rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as applied to claim 25 above.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 16, 21-25, 30-32, 34, 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dew et al. (hereinafter Dew), U.S Publication No. 20060116908.

9. As to claim 16, Dew discloses an information handling system comprising

- A. at least one workflow flow chart (Fig.2; [0039], lines 1-2);
- B. at least one information work (i.e., the details of the patient's present illness and past medical history) associated with the at least one workflow flow chart ([0040], lines 1-2, 16-19); and
- C. a control module (Fig.5, a processor embedded in device 10) configured to initiate usage by a user of the workflow flow chart in response to a request therefor from the user while the user is utilizing the at least one information work ([0026], lines 3-7; [0040], lines 9-14; [0072], lines 7-13).

10. As to claim 21, Dew discloses the at least one workflow flow chart comprises a plurality of nodes organized in a tree structure (Fig.3, [0058], lines 1-4) , each node being one of a plurality of types, including a query type (Fig 3, Spine, long bones or joints nodes, [0060], lines 2-3; [0079], lines 5-9), a user input type (left or right node under long bones node, [0060], lines 3-4; [0079], lines 11-14) and an information type (office x-rays, no x-rays and outside x-ray nodes under right node of long bones node [0060], lines 4-6) , the nodes being organized in a tree structure such that at least one node of the query type has at least one child node of the user input type and at least one node of the user input type has at least one node of the information type (Fig. 3, [0060]), each node of the query type presenting a query to the user ([0079], lines 5-9), each node of the user input type receiving user input from a user in response to the query presented in its parent node ([0079], lines 11-14), and comparing the user input to

a selected criterion, and selectively enabling its child node to provide predetermined information to the user ([0062], lines 1-8).

11. As to claim 22, Dew discloses the at least one workflow flow chart is defined by a meta traversal map ([0023], lines 4-6, meta traversal map is interpreted as clinical pathway), the meta traversal map comprising a map entry associated with each node of the at least one workflow flow chart ([0023], lines 6-8), each entry containing indicia that identifies the node type of the node associated with the map entry [0060], map entries associated with any parent or child map node that is associated with the entry's map node ([0023], lines 9-12), in the case of a map node of the query or information node type, the query or information to be provided to the user ([0079], lines 5-9), and, in the case of a map node of the input user type, the selected criterion, the control module being configured to use the respective entries in the meta traversal map ([0063], lines 1-5 and the user input in traversing the at least one workflow flow chart ([0063], lines 9-14).

12. As to claims 23, 32 and 41 Dew discloses information to be provided by at least one map node of the information node type includes information from the at least one information work ([0061], lines 1-5), the at least one map node including a link identifying the information from the at least one information work to be provided in connection therewith ([0027], lines 4-9), the control module being further configured to use the link in connection with providing the information from the at least one

information work to the user when the at least one map node is encountered in traversing the metal traversal map ([0027], lines 4-9; [0099]).

13. As to claims 24, 33 and 42, it would have been obvious to the one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to create a second information work as described in claim 17. Dew discloses a second information work ([0040], lines 1-2, 16-19), and in which information to be provided by at least one node of the information node type includes information from the second information work (office x-rays, no x-rays and outside x-ray nodes under right node of long bones node [0060], lines 4-6; [0061], lines 1-5), the at least one map node including a link identifying the information from the second information work to be provided in connection therewith, the control module being further configured to use the link in connection with providing the information from the second information work to the user when the at least one map node is encountered in traversing the metal traversal map ([0027], lines 4-9).

14. As to claim 25, Dew discloses an information handling method comprising the steps of:

- A. providing at least one workflow flow chart ([0039], lines 1-2;
- B. providing at least one information work associated with the at least one workflow flow chart ([0040], lines 1-2, 16-19); and

C. initiating usage by a user of the workflow flow chart in response to a request therefor from the user while the user is utilizing the at least one information work ([0026, lines 3-7; [0040], lines 9-14; [0072], lines 7-13).

15. As to claims 32 and 39, Dew discloses the at least one workflow flow chart comprises a plurality of nodes organized in a tree structure ([0058], lines 1-4), each node being one of a plurality of types, including a query type ([0060], lines 2-3, [0079], lines 5-9), a user input type ([0060], lines 3-4, [0079], lines 11-14) and an information type ([0060], lines 4-6), the nodes being organized in a tree structure such that at least one node of the query type has at least one child node of the user input type and at least one node of the user input type has at least one node of the information type [0060], each node of the query type presenting a query to the user ([0079], lines 5-9), each node of the user input type receiving user input from a user in response to the query presented in its parent node and comparing the user input to a selected criterion ([0079], lines 11-14), and selectively enabling its child node to provide predetermined information to the user ([0062], lines 1-8), the method further comprising the step of traversing the at least one workflow flow chart in response to user input evaluated by respective nodes of the user input type ([0025], lines 6-9; [0027], lines 1-4).

16. As to claims 31 and 40, Dew discloses the at least one workflow flow chart is defined by a meta traversal map ([0023], lines 4-6), the meta traversal map comprising a map entry associated with each node of the at least one workflow flow chart ([0023],

lines 6-8), each entry containing indicia that identifies the node type of the node associated with the map entry [0060], map entries associated with any parent or child map node that is associated with the entry's map node ([0023], lines 9-12), in the case of a map node of the query or information node type, the query or information to be provided to the user ([0079], lines 5-9), and, in the case of a map node of the input user type, the selected criterion, the traversing step including the step of using the respective entries in the meta traversal map ([0063], lines 1-5) and the user input in traversing the at least one workflow flow chart ([0063], lines 9-14).

17. As to claim 34, Dew discloses a computer program product for use in connection with a computer to provide an information handling system, the computer having at least one workflow flow chart and at least one information work associated with the at least one workflow flow chart ([0102], lines 9-17), the computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having encoded thereon

- A. a selected user input receiver module (Fig.5, icons embedded in display 50) configured to enable the computer to receive selected user input associated with the at last one information work ([0048], lines 1-4 ([0066], lines 3-10); and
- B. a workflow flow chart utilization module (Fig.5, a processor embedded in device 10) configured to enable the computer to, in response to the selected user input, enable a user to utilize the workflow flow chart ([0026], lines 3-7; [0040], lines 9-14; [0072], Lines 7-13).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

18. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

19. Claims 17-19, 20, 26-28, 29, 35, 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dew as applied to claim 16 above, in view of Kao et al. (hereinafter Kao), U.S Publication No. 20060136625.

20. As to claims 17 and 35, Dew discloses the invention as described in claims 16 and 34 above. Dew discloses a display device (Fig.5, display 50, [0066], line 2) and a user input device (Fig.5, keypad 52, [0066], line 3), the control module being configured to enable at least a portion of the at least one information work to be displayed on the display device ([0066], lines 6-10) and, in response to user input received through the user input device ([0066], lines 10-13). Dew does not disclose enable at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed on the display device, thereby to enable the user to utilize the workflow flow chart. However, Kao discloses enable at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed on the display device, thereby to enable the user to utilize the workflow flow chart ([0036], lines 1-7, sequence is interpreted as flow chart).

It would have been obvious to the one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Dew with the teaching of Kao to have the feature to enable at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed on the display device, thereby to enable the user to utilize the workflow flow chart. Because it would provide users a more convenient way to process, monitor, modify and create a rental by using a finger tip without the intervention of physical input devices like mice or keyboards, flow charts are easier to understand, they provide users a graphical representation of action to be taken, they are well suited for representing logic where there is intermingling among many actions.

21. As to claims 18 and 36, Dew discloses the invention as described in claims 16 and 34 above. Dew discloses the user input device includes a control button actuation ([0066], lines 6-10). Dew does not disclose the button enables the control module to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed. However, Kao discloses the button enables the control module to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed ([0036], lines 1-7).

The motivation of these claims is as same as the one of claim 17 above.

22. As to claims 19 and 37, Dew discloses the invention as described in claims 16 and 34 above. Dew does not disclose the information work comprises at least one actuable indicia actuation of which through input provided through the user input device enables the control module to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to

be displayed. However, Kao discloses the information work comprises at least one actuatable indicia actuation (Fig.5, icon 90, [0036] lines 11-14) of which through input provided through the user input device enables the control module to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed. ([0036], lines 1-7).

The motivation of these claims is as same as the one of claim 17 above

23. As to claims 20 and 38, Dew discloses the invention as described in claims 16 and 34 above. Dew discloses the information handling system having a plurality of workflow flow charts associated with the information work [0042], the control module being configured to, in response to user input received through the user input device ([0026], lines 3-7; [0040], lines 9-14; [0072], lines 7-13), enable a list of workflow flow charts that are associated with the at least one information work to be displayed ([0066], lines 6-7). Dew does not disclose in response to user input received through the user input device selecting one of the listed workflow flow charts to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed on said display device. However, Kao discloses in response to user input received through the user input device selecting one of the listed workflow flow charts to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed on said display device ([0039], lines 1-5; [0041], lines 12-21).

The motivation of these claims is as same as the one of claim 17 above

24. As to claim 26, Dew discloses the invention as described in claim 26 above. Dew discloses the usage initiating step includes the steps of

- A. receiving selected user input associated with the at last one information work ([0066], lines 10-13); and
- B. Dew does not disclose in response to the selected user input, enabling at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed to the user, thereby to enable the user to utilize the workflow flow chart. However, Kao discloses in response to the selected user input, enabling at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed to the user, thereby to enable the user to utilize the workflow flow chart ([0036], lines 1-7, sequence is interpreted as flow chart).

The motivation of this claim is as same as the one of claim 17 above.

25. As to claim 27, Dew discloses an information handling method as defined in claim 26 in which the selected user input receiving step includes the step of receiving an indication of actuation of a control button actuation associated with a user input device ([0066], lines 3-10).

26. As to claim 28, Dew discloses an information handling method as defined in claim 26 in which the selected user input receiving step includes the step of receiving an indication of actuation of actuatable indicia associated with the at least one information work ([0066], lines 3-10).

27. As to claim 29, it would have been obvious to the one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to create a second information work as described in claim 25 above.

Dew discloses the step of providing at least a second workflow flow chart with which the at least one information work is associated ([0040], lines 1-2, 16-19), the selected user input receiving step including the steps of:

A. enabling a list of workflow flow charts that are associated with the at least one information work to be displayed in response to user input received through the user input device ([0066], lines 6-13).

Dew does not disclose

B. in response to user input received through the user input device selecting one of the listed workflow flow charts to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed. However, Kao discloses in response to user input received through the user input device selecting one of the listed workflow flow charts to enable said at least a portion of the workflow flow chart to be displayed (0036, lines 1-7).

The motivation of this claim is as same as the one of claim 17 above.

### ***Conclusion***

28. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hickle et al.	US 20030135087
Ballantyne et al.	US 5867821
Wotherspoon et al.	US 20030193930
Yevgeniy Eugene Shteyn	US 20030117365

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BANGLONG TRAN whose telephone number is (571)270-3931. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00p.m, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton B. Burgess can be reached on (571)272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/B. T./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2458

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